

Metamora Hunt Newsletter

October, 2010

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Tip of the Month:

By Joseph Maday, MFH

Stay behind your Field Master at all times and follow his/her line. Never pass the Master or ride an alternate route without his/her permission. If he/she crosses a field by hugging the edge, you should do likewise. Keep up with the Field Master, since leaving large gaps can interfere with the day's sport and possibly make your horse uncomfortable.

Safety First:

By Bob Carden

You should inspect your tack carefully before each hunt. Any sign of excessive wear on reins and especially stirrup leathers is your cue to replace them or have them repaired right away. Cracks in the leather or badly elongated buckle holes

Hounds & Hunting

By Joe Kent, MFH

Our hounds continue to impress despite difficult scenting conditions caused by muggy weather. [Opening Day](#) was no exception with a red fox being pushed by Igloo onto Rock Valley road in front of Janine Klayman, who was riding with Debbie Pace and the Hilltoppers. Unfortunately Adrian's horse left without him and took Adrian's horn. This dented the prospects for a chase, but the fox was not disappointed.

An exciting time was also had in Clare where hounds worked through a brief downpour and high winds to find a fox in Section 8 of the beautiful Cornwell Ranch. Reynard cleverly used the river and barbed wire to keep us at a distance, but hounds gave good cry and an exciting morning nevertheless. The day ended with a wonderful breakfast courtesy of the Bays and a large contingent of Hunt members and friends who chipped in.

Gay and I brought six new hounds to Metamora on October 3rd. as gifts of a hunt in [Aiken, South Carolina](#) which also showed us good sport in their own hunt country last February. The two females and four males are tri-colored hounds that will be easily mistaken for our Metamora-bred Fire, Fusion, Farmer, Femur, and Freedom. Could this be the making of a pack class entry for next year's Virginia Hound Show? It would be a lovely sight. Premier and Watchful are experienced hounds and they will help us immediately. The balance will be started more slowly as the season unfolds. The introduction of young hounds to hunting is always exciting, both for them and us. It is a great thrill to watch genes combined through centuries of careful breeding be awakened for the first time as the scent of a fox or coyote drifts into the eager nose of a newly entered hound.

on stirrup leathers are danger signals that you should not ignore. Reins should be inspected for deterioration in any stitching or hardware, and for cracks in the leather. Girths should be in good condition and have enough elasticity to assure that they will stay tight during your ride. A broken stirrup leather or rein could result in grief to the unwary rider. A loose girth is an accident waiting to happen. Be aware and stay safe out there.

Looking Your Best:

By Guest Columnist
Priscilla Tuttington, QFP
The Doubtfire Hunt, UK

It was my pleasure to attend some of your hunts this past month. It is always a great pleasure for me to visit the States. Americans are always so charming, but it seems to me that you all spend too much time working and too little time with the fine things in life. I was planning to spend just a few days in your delightful hunt country, however since I have met your Huntsman, I am staying on a bit longer. What a lovely boy, and from good English stock as well!

I was pleased to attend the Opening Meet in Metamora. Your Staff, Members, and Guests were well turned out. I did notice one or two Ladies who neglected to put up their hair in a proper net. I am sure with my gentle reminding that they will not neglect to do so again.

October is the most beautiful month for Hunting. The Fall colors will be at peak in the next few weeks and the weather and footing are likely to be the best we will have for this season. Please make every effort to join us in the Hunt Field this month.

Additional News:

Introductory Membership Offer: To accommodate riders that have never been members of the Metamora Hunt, or are new to [Fox Hunting](#), the Metamora Hunt is now offering an Introductory Membership for the 2010-2011 [Hunt Season](#). For information on this very affordable, full season offer for unlimited hunts, please contact Cindy Dillon: cindy@dillonreo.com, 586-531-1859.

Capping: Guests may hunt with the prior consent of one of our Masters of Foxhounds: Joseph Kent: 248-628-2065; Joseph Maday: 248-628-7203. The capping fee for regular hunts is \$55 for adults and \$25 for juniors. Guests may cap a maximum of 3 times per season.

Hunt Activities:

Metamora Hunter Trials - October 10th.

This show will be held on Sunday, October 10th. at the Hunter Trial field at the corner of Barber and Rock Valley Roads. Debbie Pace is our Organizer this year and the Hunter Trials will be great fun! So, mark your calendars and SAVE THE DATE for the Hunter Trials! Show off your horse's jumping abilities, cheer on your friends and enjoy a hearty tailgate! Contact Debbie Pace: 810-678-8762.

Hound exercising: including Members is available most non hunting mornings. Huntsman and Staff are on bicycles, please call the Kennels (810-678-2711) for updates.

Calendar of Events

Hunter Trials: Sunday - October 10th.
Contact Debbie Pace: 810-678-8762.

Hunt Ball: The Hunt Ball is in the planning stages and a date in [January 2011](#) is soon to be selected. Carole Beckett (248-628-1192) and Marcia Turner (810-796-3359) are heading the planning committee. Please contact them if you would like to help out, or if you have a silent auction item to offer.

It was my pleasure to attend a lovely Hunt Breakfast with many of you in attendance. My, what wonderful hospitality is exhibited by your estate owners! I must admit to my surprise when I noticed some of you enjoying the repast while wearing your spurs in that lovely home. This is very poor form my dears! Please show respect for the fine furniture and flooring by never wearing your spurs when attending a Hunt Breakfast.

My regards to you all. I look forward to seeing you out hunting in your very best this month.

